

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3271

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 5712

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR PL

SUBJ: POLISH GRAIN CROP AND LIVESTOCK ESTIMATES

1. PURSUANT TO UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED IN THE AGRICULTURAL WORKING GROUP OF THE US-POLISH JOINT TRADE COMMISSION, THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE HAS PROVIDED THE EMBASSY WITH ESTIMATES FOR 1976 GRAIN PRODUCTION AND LIVESTOCK POPULATIONS. THE ESTIMATES PREDICT GRAIN PRODUCTION TO BE SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN LAST YEAR'S POOR CROP, THAT IS, 19.1 MILLION TONS OF TOTAL GRAINS IN 1976 VERSUS 19.4 MILLION TONS IN 1975. LIVESTOCK POPULATIONS ARE NEARLY ALL REDUCED FROM 1975 LEVELS, AND THE WORST DROPS HAVE BEEN IN TOTAL HOGS (10 PERCENT) AND SOWS (15 PERCENT), REFLECTING LARGE-SCALE SLAUGHTERING IN THIS YEAR.

2. THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE HAS REQUESTED THAT THE LIVESTOCK FIGURES BE TREATED CONFIDENTIALLY. GIVEN THE SAD NEWS WHICH THE LIVESTOCK FIGURES BEAR FOR THE POLISH ECONOMY, THE EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT THE LIVESTOCK FIGURES NOT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO TRADE SOURCES OR OTHERWISE MADE KNOWN PUBLICLY, UNLESS THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE IS CONSULTED IN ADVANCE.

3. THE FOLLOWING TABLES ARE THOSE PRESENTED BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WITH DERIVED ESTIMATES INDICATED WHERE USED. THE FIGURES ARE BASED ON THE CENSUS COMPLETED AT THE END OF JULY. THERE ARE SOME SLIGHT DISCREPANCIES IN THE MINISTRY'S FIGURES
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WHICH WE WILL TRY TO RECONCILE NEXT WEEK. THE EMBASSY WILL CABLE

A MORE COMPLETE REPORT NEXT WEEK.

4. GRAIN PRODUCTION IN POLAND, 1976

	AREA (1000 HA)	YIELD QUINTALS/HA	PRODUCT MILLION METRIC TONS
WHEAT	1,833.6	27.2	5.0#
RYE	2,700.0#	22.4	6.0#
BARLEY	1,400.0#	29.5	4.1#
OATS	1,160.0#	22.4	2.5#
TOTAL	7,093.3		17.6#
MIXED GRAINS			
(OATS & BARLEY)	582.3	25.6	1.5#
TOTAL GRAINS	7,675.6		19.1

AGATTACHE OFFICE DERIVED ESTIMATES

5. PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF LIVESTOCK CENSUS CONDUCTED BY TELEPHONE (IN MILLION HEADS)

	1976 AS PERCENT		
	1975	1976	OF 1975 POPULATION
TOTAL CATTLE			
POPULATION	13.393	12.817	95.7
OF WHICH COWS	6.248	5.980	95.7
TOTAL PORK			
POPULATION	20.867	18.697	89.6
OF WHICH SOWS	2.066	1.764	85.4
SHEEP	3.194	3.398	106.4

6. TOTAL PRODUCTION OF RAPE AND SUMMER RAPE FOR 1976 IS ESTIMATED TO BE 700,000 TONS, ON THE BASIS OF 398,000 HECTARES PLANTED AND AN AVERAGE YIELD OF 19.2 QUINTALS PER HECTARE. THE 1975 RAPE AND SUMMER RAPE PRODUCTION WAS 726,000 TONS, WITH A PER-HECTARE-YIELD OF 23.5 QUINTALS ACCORDING TO THE MINISTRY.
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